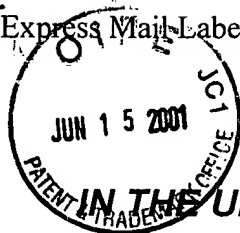


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PATENT
Atty. Docket No. BMA-008

#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Laugharn *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/812,723 GROUP NUMBER: Not Yet Assigned

FILING DATE: March 20, 2001 EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

TITLE: *"Method and Apparatus For Acoustically Controlling Liquid Solutions In MicroFluidic Devices"*

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please make the following amendments to the patent application identified above prior to substantive examination. Applicants believe no additional fees are necessitated by this Preliminary Amendment. However, in the event that any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees relating to this submission to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the specification in the following manner.

Please delete the section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS", and replace it with the following. (A marked up version of the amendment is attached).